

# On the Road with Carrier Services

March 2014

"On the Road with Carrier Services" is a bulletin dedicated to keeping carriers informed of educational opportunities, safety notices, and upcoming changes that may affect their operations. For more information, visit our website at: [www.transportation.alberta.ca/499.htm](http://www.transportation.alberta.ca/499.htm).

## Commercial Vehicle Manual Coming April 1

Alberta Transportation will be releasing an updated version of the *Commercial Vehicle Safety Compliance in Alberta* education manual.

This education manual was developed to help bus and truck carriers and their drivers to better understand their regulatory responsibilities. Over the last several months, we have worked on refreshing the look and feel of the manual, and explaining the regulations in a way that is easier to read and understand.

The electronic version of the manual has also been made more interactive. It will allow readers to access more detailed information

or relevant laws at their own convenience by clicking various hyperlinks and buttons.

In an effort to ensure these changes make a positive difference in the way the manual is presented, we have included carriers and related associations in the final review process. It is our hope that the final version of the manual will be user friendly and informative to all who use it. The document will be available in both electronic and hardcopy formats.

The final version of the education manual will be released to the public on April 1, 2014.

For more information, visit our website at: [www.transportation.alberta.ca/671.htm](http://www.transportation.alberta.ca/671.htm)



## Alberta Opens One Window for Permits

Carriers will have one convenient place to go for oversize vehicle permits. Alberta Transportation will be putting the [TRAVIS-MJ](#) permit system in place on April 1, 2014. TRAVIS-MJ enables carriers to apply for and obtain a single permit that covers **both** provincial highways and local municipal roads that loads travel on. Previously, carriers had to obtain provincial permits as well as permits from each local road authority.

TRAVIS-MJ also changes the way permit fees are calculated. After April 1, these calculations will be based on the distance actually travelled on the road rather than "as-the-crow flies."

The new calculation method helps the Alberta government share fee revenues with municipalities. The municipal share is proportional to the distance traveled on roads under municipal authority for each trip.

On average, permit fees based on actual distance traveled are about 40 per cent higher than "as-the-crow-flies" distance calculations.

After consulting with industry representatives, the Alberta government agreed to lower the fee rate per kilometer for actual distance traveled, so the net fee increase will only be 10

per cent per year for the next six years.

Once the changes are complete, Alberta's permit fees will be comparable to other provinces, keeping Alberta's industry competitive. The new fees will also close the gap between fee revenues and maintenance costs.

The fee rate will be reviewed in 2017 and adjusted according to actual road maintenance costs at that time. The goal is striking a balance between what's fair for industry and protecting taxpayers' investment in road infrastructure.



# Online Applications

The Alberta government is in the process of developing an online service for applications related to the National Safety Code (NSC) Program.

As of spring 2014, some NSC applications will be available for online submission, including:

- Safety Fitness Certificate;
- Submission of a Declaration;
- Change of Operating Status; and
- Name Change (including amendment requests for Safety Fitness Certificates, Intra-Provincial Operating Authority Certificates, and Extra-Provincial Operating Authority Certificates).

Carriers can access the online applications on Alberta Transportation's website at: [www.transportation.alberta.ca/499.htm](http://www.transportation.alberta.ca/499.htm).

Information is available to assist carriers with the application process. Upon completion and submission of applications online, the documents are automatically sent to the government for review. If submissions are successful, carriers will receive confirmation by email including a copy of the application submission, with receipt of payment (if applicable). Overall, the online application option improves the efficiency of the application process for carriers and the government.

Printed applications will continue to be accepted by email, fax, or mail. Alberta Registry Agencies may provide options for carriers who do not have access to the internet.

## DID YOU KNOW?



If you think you or your driver was involved in a non-preventable collision that will appear on your Carrier Profile, you can request to have it evaluated!

Collisions that are deemed "non-preventable" after an evaluation will not be used when determining your Safety Fitness Rating.

For more information, visit: [www.transportation.alberta.ca/656.htm](http://www.transportation.alberta.ca/656.htm).



## North American Fatigue Management Program

Driver fatigue is a critical safety issue that affects the transportation industry and increases the risk of collisions, impacting the safety of the motoring public. A fatigue management program can be developed to address issues related to fatigue in the workplace, help mitigate risks associated with fatigue, and decrease the number and severity of fatigue-related incidents. Every carrier can benefit from having a fatigue management program, regardless of the operation size or business type.

carriers and their employees to help identify and manage driver fatigue. The program can be used to help carriers understand the symptoms and impacts of fatigue, and assist carriers in developing fatigue management programs that meet their operational and learning needs.

More information related to fatigue and fatigue management program development is available on Alberta Transportation's website at: [www.transportation.alberta.ca/5305.htm](http://www.transportation.alberta.ca/5305.htm).

The [North American Fatigue Management Program \(NAFMP\)](#) was launched on July 10, 2013 as a tool for commercial truck and bus



You can access and apply for the following safety permits online using Alberta Transportation's Online Services!

- Oil Well Service Vehicle Cycle Exemption Permit;
- CAODC Oil and Gas Well Service Rig Permit;
- Divided Record Authority Permit;
- Municipal Firefighting Vehicle Permit; and
- Water Well Drilling Rig Exemption Permit.

For more information, visit: [www.transportation.alberta.ca/4489.htm](http://www.transportation.alberta.ca/4489.htm)



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